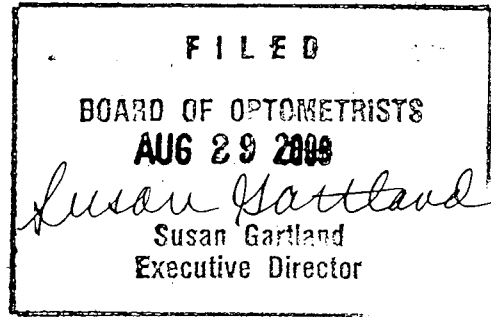


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION :
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

PAUL HADLEY, O.D.
License No. OA2987

PROVISIONAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

TO PRACTICE OPTOMETRY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Optometry upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made;

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is an optometrist in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On April 26, 2000 respondent entered into a Consent Order entered by the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor of the State of New Jersey indicating that respondent committed acts which violated N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4. Specifically, the respondent on November 10, 1997

submitted an altered ophthalmology claim (#711350549) to Metlife, for patient Marvin Stone to read a treatment date of December 1, 1997, the date that Mr. Stone was eligible for benefits with Metlife. Respondent consented to pay a civil administrative penalty of \$1500.00. (Copy of Consent order and attachments annexed hereto and made a part hereof)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The above administrative action provides grounds for the suspension of his license to practice optometry in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(k) in that respondent has been the subject of an order imposing penalties for a violation of N.J.S.A. 17:33A-4.

2. The Board finds that the respondent's conduct of altering a submission to an insurance carrier for services rendered to a patient constitutes professional misconduct in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and, therefore, provides ground for disciplinary action.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 29th day of August, 2000,

ORDERED that:

1. Respondent is hereby publicly reprimanded for altering a submission to an insurance carrier for professional services rendered an action that constitutes professional misconduct by an optometrist.

2. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) for his professional misconduct. The amount shall be remitted by means of a check or money order, payable to the New Jersey Board of Optometrists and sent to the Board at 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, P.O. Box 45012, Newark, New Jersey, 07101 no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the receipt of this order.

3. The within Order shall be subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry hereof unless respondent requests a modification or dismissal of the above stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by:

a) Submitting a written request for modification or dismissal to Susan Gartland Executive Director, State Board of Optometrists, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

b) Setting forth in writing any and all reasons and or mitigation as to why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed.

c) Submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

4. Any submissions will be reviewed by the Board, and the Board will thereafter determine whether further proceedings are necessary. If no material discrepancies are raised through the submission by respondent during the thirty-day period, or if the Board is not persuaded that submitted materials merit further consideration, a Final Order of Discipline will be entered.

5. In the event that respondent's submissions establish a need for further proceedings, including, but not limited to, an evidentiary hearing, respondent shall be notified with regard thereto. In the event that an evidentiary hearing is ordered, the preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law contained herein shall serve as notice of the factual and legal allegations in such proceeding.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRISTS

By 
Barry Schneider
Board President